

Date Mailed
May 18, 1999

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of CenturyTel of Wisconsin, Inc. for Approval of an
Alternative Regulation Plan

2930-TI-101

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING
AND
INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS
AND
PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

Prehearing Conference Date: June 1, 1999 – 10:00 a.m.

**Conference Location: Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way,
Madison, WI (Amnicon Falls Hearing Room—1st Floor)**

THIS IS A PROCEEDING to consider whether it is in the public interest to approve an alternative regulation plan for CenturyTel of Wisconsin, Inc. (CTW), and if so, what provisions should be included in such a plan. CTW provides telecommunications service to the La Crosse and West Salem exchanges. On February 18, 1999, CTW filed an application for an alternative regulation plan (Plan) under Wis. Stat. § 196.195(12). If approved, the proposed Plan would increase rates for local residential service, decrease rates for local business and intrastate access services, and implement a primary interexchange carrier charge (PICC). The Plan would cover a 5-year period, and include a provision that the applicant be allowed to adjust rates within specified limits based on rate rebalancing and attainment of specified objectives. The Plan also includes waiver of certain statutory sections and implementation of procedures to promote competition in the applicant's service territory. Details of these and other proposals are contained in the applicant's filing. Copies of the applicant's filings may be obtained by written request to Timothy Steffes, CenturyTel, P.O. Box 349, Tomah, WI 54660-0349, or by e-mail addressed to *tim.steffes@centurytel.com*.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission will hold a prehearing conference on June 1, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Hearing Examiner. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

The prehearing conference is being held to: (1) identify persons who will actively participate as full parties; (2) identify issues; (3) determine the date and time for a hearing; (4) specify dates for filing testimony and exhibits; and (5) any other matters that will facilitate the hearing.

Full parties will be bound by the designation of issues and the schedule adopted at the prehearing conference. Persons who consider themselves to be potential full parties should participate in the prehearing conference. Persons who desire to actively participate as full parties must request full-party status in writing. Full-party status requests should be addressed to Jeff Patzke, Hearing Examiner, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Examining Division, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

This is a Class 1 proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a).

The Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of CTW. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from CTW in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to get this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Christopher Larson at (608) 267-9508.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission